

Today, Putin's war is conducting mass murder, defaming the people of Russia as innocent women and children are being murdered.

God bless Ukraine. God save Ukraine. Long live Volodymyr Zelensky.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 35 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. HOULAHAN) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

O Lord, our God, will now be the time when You reveal Your favor? Answer those who cry to You, O compassionate Lord, for Your blessing this day.

Is today the day of salvation? Help those, Almighty God, who find themselves in unspeakable danger and desperately in need of Your saving grace at this very moment.

Will You allow release for the prisoners of tyranny?

Will You shine light on those who have been enveloped in the darkness of destruction?

Have pity on those who suddenly find themselves physically and spiritually hungry and thirsty.

Have pity on them and lead them by springs of living water. Refresh them again with hope found only in You. Do not let them be struck down, they who endure the scorching wind of war and the heat of battle.

Turn impassable mountains into an open road and raise up Your highways above any obstruction of passage. May those who seek refuge find shelter in You and those who suffer brought safely toward Your haven of compassion.

We call upon Your strong and sovereign name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 55. An act to amend section 249 of title 18, United States Code, to specify lynching as a hate crime act.

H.R. 2545. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the role of doctors of podiatric medicine in the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2089. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that grants provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for State veterans' cemeteries do not restrict States from authorizing the interment of certain deceased members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces in such cemeteries, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF PRESIDING ELDER ALONZO MIDDLETON

(Mr. CLYBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and mentor who was a man of great faith. Elder Alonzo Middleton passed away on March 1, 2022, at the age of 91.

Elder Middleton used his longevity in great service to the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a proud lifetime member of my home congregation, Morris Brown AME Church, in Charleston, South Carolina, and was a graduate of Allen University, where he later served on the board of trustees.

Elder Middleton was a pastor and presiding elder in the Seventh Episcopal District, which encompasses the entire State of South Carolina. He served as a delegate to multiple quadrennials of the AME Church's general conference and on its general board.

He retired from active service as presiding elder of the Mount Pleasant District, one of the largest in the AME Church.

One of his lasting accomplishments was engineering the merger of three small Charleston congregations to create a single church renamed the Great-er Middleton Chapel AME Church.

Elder Middleton was a mentor for many generations of AME clergy and laymen. He will be sorely missed.

THIRTEEN KILLED IN KABUL

(Mrs. BOEBERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today having received a message from the mother of a young American hero, Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui, who tragically and unnecessarily lost his life during the Biden administration's catastrophic withdrawal from Afghanistan.

She encouraged me to publicly share her message, which in part read:

Mrs. Boebert, I am the mother of Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui, one of the 13 killed in Kabul. I wish more people had the backbone that you have. When I heard you say, "13 of them," my heart dropped, my eyes filled with tears, and I was so happy to hear about our 13 kids at that very moment. You have no idea how much that meant to me.

We have been lied to over and over, and then we watch this administration act as if it never happened. The pain of losing my son is unbearable.

Just know when I heard you say, "13 of them," it gave me hope to help us get some type of justice about what this corrupt administration has done and is still doing. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to say it was impossible to ignore our 13 servicemembers, and they will continue to be honored and remembered, despite their Commander in Chief intending to ignore them.

HONORING "HARMONICA PETE" DUPRE

(Mr. MORELLE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the extraordinary life of Rochester's own Pete DuPre, fondly known as Harmonica Pete, who died peacefully at the venerable age of 98 earlier this year.

Harmonica Pete served our Nation as a combat medic during World War II. When he returned home, he began volunteering with the Greatest Generation Foundation, playing the harmonica for veterans groups.

His heartfelt rendition of "The Star-Spangled Banner" onboard the USS *Arizona* and his performance before the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team in 2019 turned Harmonica Pete into a worldwide viral sensation.

He chose to heal our Nation's veterans through music and brought joy to all who knew him.

Pete once said, "History books fade, and so do we," but his memory will never fade from our hearts and minds.

May you rest in peace, Harmonica Pete.